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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/082,839

02/22/2002

Olaf Josef Hirsch

US 028013

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7590

04/05/2006

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

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BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

HO, CHUONG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/082,839

Applicant(s)

HIRSCH ET AL.

Examiner

CHUONG T. HO

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 08/04/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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1. Claims 1-20 are pending.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In the claim 1, page 12, line 2, the word "capable of " and in page 12, lines 5, the word "capability of" are used.

According to MPEP 2111.4 Claim scope is not limited by claim language that suggest or makes optional but does not require steps to be performed, or by claim language that does not limit a claim to a particular structure. Therefore appropriate correction is required.

**Similarly for the following claims appropriate correction is required;**

3. Claim 14 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In the claim 14, in page 13, lines 23-24, the word "capability of" and in the page 14, lines 1-2, "capable of" are used.

According to MPEP 2111.4 Claim scope is not limited by claim language that suggest or makes optional but does not require steps to be performed, or by claim language that does not limit a claim to a particular structure. Therefore appropriate correction is required.

4. Claim 18 is objected because of the following informalities:

In the claim 18, in page 14, line 17, the word "capability of " and in the page 14, line 18, the word "capable of " are used.

According to MPEP 2111.4 Claim scope is not limited by claim language that suggest or makes optional but does not require steps to be performed, or by claim

language that does not limit a claim to a particular structure. Therefore appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,940,827 B2) in view of Young et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,990,116 B1).

In the claim 1, see figure 11, Li et al. discloses a method and apparatus for wireless communication are described. In one embodiment, a method for communicating with a subscriber (transmitting station) comprises transmitting orthogonal frequency domain multiplexing (OFDM) signals to the subscriber (an intended receiving station), and receiving direct-sequence spread spectrum (DSSS) (or W-CDMA) signals from the subscriber (an intended receiving station); comprising:

- At least one OFDM station (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-60, units or subscribers) capable of transmitting and receiving OFDM and DSSS/CCK modulated data (see col. 10, lines 53-62, the system may include other units (e.g., subscribers) that have CDMA transmitter and receivers and either an OFDM transmitter or receiver or both. Similarly, other unit (s) may be in the

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communication system and have CDMA transmitter and a CDMA receiver without having OFDM communication capabilities. On the other hand, the additional unit (s) may have OFDM communication capabilities (OFDM transmitter and / or receiver) yet no CDMA communication capabilities );

- An intended receiving station (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-62, units or subscribers);
- Wherein, the OFDM station learns of the modulation capability of the intended receiving station and transmits OFDM modulated data if the receiving station is capable of OFDM modulation and transmits DSSS/CCK modulated data if the receiving station cannot decode OFDM modulation (see col. 11, lines 64-66, the feedback of information from each subscriber to the base station contains a SINR value for each cluster and also indicates the coding/modulation rate that subscriber desires to use) (each subscriber continuously monitor the reception of the pilot symbols and measures the SINR and/or other parameters, including inter-cell interference and intra-cell traffic, of each cluster (processing block 1302). Based on this information, each subscriber selects one or more clusters with good performance (e.g., high SINR and low traffic loading) relative to each other and feed back the information on these candidate clusters to the base station through predefined uplink access channels).

However, Li et al. are silent to disclosing a wireless local area network.

Young et al. discloses a wireless local area network (see abstract).

Both Li et al. and Young et al. are wireless network communication. Young recognizes wireless local area network. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Li with the teaching of Young to provide the wireless local area network in order to increasing throughput in wireless network communications. Therefore, combined system would have been enable to provide more efficient use of bandwidth through a wireless network, especially when the load conditions are heavy.

6. In the claim 14, see figure 11, Li et al. discloses a method and apparatus for wireless communication are described. In one embodiment, a method for communicating with a subscriber (transmitting station) comprises transmitting orthogonal frequency domain multiplexing (OFDM) signals to the subscriber (an intended receiving station) , and receiving direct-sequence spread spectrum (DSSS) (or W-CDMA) signals from the subscriber (an intended receiving station); comprising:

- At least one OFDM station (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-60, units or subscribers) capable of transmitting and receiving OFDM and DSSS/CCK modulated data (see col. 10, lines 53-62, the system may include other units (e.g., subscribers) that have CDMA transmitter and receivers and either an OFDM transmitter or receiver or both. Similary, other unit (s) may be in the communication system and have CDMA transmitter and a CDMA receiver without having OFDM communication capabilities. On the other hand, the additional unit (s) may have OFDM communication capabilities (OFDM) transmiiter and / or receiver) yet no CDMA communication capabilities );

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- An intended receiving station (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-62, units or subscribers);
- Wherein, the OFDM station learns of the modulation capability of the intended receiving station and transmits OFDM modulated data if the receiving station is capable of OFDM modulation and transmits DSSS/CCK modulated data if the receiving station cannot decode OFDM modulation (see col. 11, lines 64-66, the feedback of information from each subscriber to the base station contains a SINR value for each cluster and also indicates the coding/modulation rate that subscriber desires to use) (each subscriber continuously monitor the reception of the pilot symbols and measures the SINR and/or other parameters, including inter-cell interference and intra-cell traffic, of each cluster (processing block 1302). Based on this information, each subscriber selects one or more clusters with good performance (e.g., high SINR and low traffic loading) relative to each other and feed back the information on these candidate clusters to the base station through predefined uplink access channels).

However, Li et al. are silent to disclosing a wireless local area network.

Young et al. discloses a wireless local area network (see abstract).

Both Li et al. and Young et al. are wireless network communication. Young recognizes wireless local area network. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Li with the teaching of Young to provide the wireless local area network in order to increasing throughput in wireless network communications. Therefore, combined system would

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have been enable to provide more efficient use of bandwidth through a wireless network, especially when the load conditions are heavy.

7. In the claim 18, see figure 11, Li et al. discloses a method and apparatus for wireless communication are described. In one embodiment, a method for communicating with a subscriber (transmitting station) comprises transmitting orthogonal frequency domain multiplexing (OFDM) signals to the subscriber (an intended receiving station) , and receiving direct-sequence spread spectrum (DSSS) (or W-CDMA) signals from the subscriber (an intended receiving station); comprising:

- At least one OFDM station (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-60, units or subscribers) capable of transmitting and receiving OFDM and DSSS/CCK modulated data (see col. 10, lines 53-62, the system may include other units (e.g., subscribers) that have CDMA transmitter and receivers and either an OFDM transmitter or receiver or both. Similary, other unit (s) may be in the communication system and have CDMA transmitter and a CDMA receiver without having OFDM communication capabilities. On the other hand, the additional unit (s) may have OFDM communication capabilities (OFDM) transmiiter and / or receiver) yet no CDMA communication capabilities );
- An intended receiving station (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-62, units or subscribers);
- Wherein, the OFDM station learns of the modulation capability of the intended receiving station and transmits OFDM modulated data if the receiving station is capable of OFDM modulation and transmits DSSS/CCK modulated data if the



receiving station cannot decode OFDM modulation (see col. 11, lines 64-66, the feedback of information from each subscriber to the base station contains a SINR value for each cluster and also indicates the coding/modulation rate that subscriber desires to use) (each subscriber continuously monitor the reception of the pilot symbols and measures the SINR and/or other parameters, including inter-cell interference and intra-cell traffic, of each cluster (processing block 1302). Based on this information, each subscriber selects one or more clusters with good performance (e.g., high SINR and low traffic loading) relative to each other and feed back the information on these candidate clusters to the base station through predefined uplink access channels).

However, Li et al. are silent to disclosing a wireless local area network.

Young et al. discloses a wireless local area network (see abstract).

Both Li et al. and Young et al. are wireless network communication. Young recognizes wireless local area network. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Li with the teaching of Young to provide the wireless local area network in order to increasing throughput in wireless network communications. Therefore, combined system would have been enable to provide more efficient use of bandwidth through a wireless network, especially when the load conditions are heavy.

8. In the claims 2, 15, Li et al. discloses the OFDM station (the subscriber or unit) learns of the modulation capabilities of the receiving station when the OFDM station joins the network (see figure 11, col. 10, lines 53-60, units or subscribers) capable of

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transmitting and receiving OFDM and DSSS/CCK modulated data (see col. 10, lines 53-62, the system may include other units (e.g., subscribers) that have CDMA transmitter and receivers and either an OFDM transmitter or receiver or both. Similarly, other unit (s) may be in the communication system and have CDMA transmitter and a CDMA receiver without having OFDM communication capabilities. On the other hand, the additional unit (s) may have OFDM communication capabilities (OFDM) transmitter and / or receiver) yet no CDMA communication capabilities).

9. In the claim 3, Li et al. discloses the limitations of claim 1 above.

However, Li et al. are silent to disclosing the OFDM station (the wireless station) is an access point of the network.

Young et al. discloses the OFDM station (see figure 1, col. 4, lines 17-25, the wireless station) is an access point of the network.

Both Li et al. and Young et al. are wireless network communication. Young recognizes the wireless station is an access point of the network. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Li with the teaching of Young to provide an access point of the network in order to increasing throughput in wireless network communications. Therefore, combined system would have been enable to provide more efficient use of bandwidth through a wireless network, especially when the load conditions are heavy.

10. In the claim 4, Li et al. discloses the OFDM station (the wireless station) learn (see col. 11, lines 38-40, lines 64-66, monitor, the feedback information) of the

respective modulation capabilities of the all other stations present in the network when the OFDM station joins the network.

11. In the claim 5, Li et al. discloses the OFDM station (the wireless station) learns of the modulation capabilities of the receiving station upon detection of a previous frame exchanged over the network by the receiving station (see col. 11, lines 25-43, lines 64-66).

12. In the claim 6, Li et al. discloses comprising an access point (base station) for communicating with the stations and wherein the access point informs (the feedback of information) the OFDM station of the modulation capability of the receiving station (see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-67).

13. In the claim 7, Li et al. discloses wherein the access point (the base station) informs the OFDM station in a transmission opportunity transmitted to the OFDM station (subscribers or units, see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-66).

14. In the claim 8, Li et al. discloses an access point (base station, see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-66) for communicating with the station (subscribers or units, see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-66) and, wherein the OFDM station (subscriber or units) inform the access point of its OFDM modulation capability (code / modulation) during authentication (registration) of the OFDM station (quantities. Unless specifically stated otherwise as apparent from the following discussion, it is appreciated that throughout the description, discussions utilizing terms such as "processing" or "computing" or "calculating" or "determining" or "displaying" or the like, refer to the action and processes of a computer system, or similar electronic computing device, that

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manipulates and transforms data represented as physical (electronic) quantities within the computer system's registers and memories into other data similarly represented as physical quantities within the computer system memories or registers or other such information storage, transmission or display devices).

15. In the claims 9, 16, Li et al. discloses the OFDM (subscribers or units) station transmits a request-to-send frame comprising information representative of the OFDM modulation capability and receives a clear-to-send from the receiving station indicating an acceptance of the OFDM modulation (see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-66, col. 12, lines 24-25, the base station also informs the subscriber about the appropriate modulation/coding rates).

16. In the claims 10, 17, Li et al. discloses OFDM station (subscribers or units) transmit OFDM modulated request-to-send and clear-to-send frames to OFDM capable stations of the network (see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-66, col. 12, lines 24-25).

17. In the claim 11, Li et al. discloses the stations operate under the IEEE 802.11 specification (see col. 2, lines 33-35).

18. In the claim 12, Li et al. discloses the stations operate under the IEEE 802.11 specification (see col. 2, lines 33-35).

19. In the claim 13, Li et al. discloses the OFDM station (subscribers or stations) transmits an OFDM modulated request-to-send frame to the receiving station if the receiving station is capable of OFDM modulation (see col. 11, lines 36-43, lines 64-66, col. 12, lines 24-25).

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20. In the claim 19, Li et al. discloses the access point (the base station, see col. 12, lines 24-25) informs an OFDM station (subscribers or units) of the network of the modulation capability of another station with which the OFDM desires (see col. 11, lines 64-66) to communicate with.

21. In the claim 20, Li et al. discloses the access point (base station) comprises an hybrid coordinator and transmits a DSSS/CCK modulated opportunity to an OFDM station, the transmission opportunity comprising information representative of the modulation capability (modulation /coding) of a station, with which the OFDM station seeks to communicate.

### ***Conclusion***

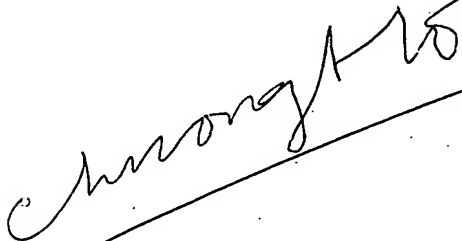
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHUONG T. HO whose telephone number is (571) 272-3133. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

03/31/06

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Chuong Ho', is written over a horizontal line.

Chuong Ho